

2nd February 1923]

## II

### COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

#### (1)

With reference to the answer given to the question supplemental to question No. 294 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 16th September 1922, the SECRETARY laid on the table a \*statement showing the commission drawn by the Official Assignee of Madras in each of the years 1918—1921 and the commission paid to Messrs. Dowden & Co., the auctioneers of the Official Assignee, during those years.

#### (2)

The SECRETARY also laid on the table † G.O. No. 63-A, Finance, dated 18th January 1923, regarding the nomination of Mr. C. E. Wood as a member of the Standing Finance Committee.

## III

### DEMAND FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1922-23.

#### Grant XXXII.

The hon. Mr. A. R. KNAPP :—" Sir, I beg to move—

*That the Government be granted an additional allotment of Rs. 10,00,000 under 47. Miscellaneous—Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges—on account of compensation to be made for losses sustained during the recent Mappilla rebellion in Malabar.*

"Mr. President, I feel it particularly unfortunate that after the warning given yesterday on the subject of supplementary grants in general it falls to me to stand before the House and move a supplementary grant for 10 lakhs of rupees. I am quite confident, however, that the House will feel that this particular case is not an illustration of the perpetual extravagance of the department which I have the honour to administer, and will view the demand with favour. The 10 lakhs are required for compensation for losses sustained by private persons in Malabar during the rebellion. The word 'compensation' is not perhaps strictly correct. We have been advised from the very outset that the Government were not under any legal obligation to give compensation. We published our decision to that effect and it has never been seriously questioned. At the same time, the Government did recognize that whatever could be done for those unfortunate sufferers in Malabar should be done, and they decided that as an act of grace the fines and confiscations levied on persons convicted in connexion with the rebellion should be set aside to be distributed among the sufferers.

"The details of the demand which I make fall into two sections. In the first place, we have already collected in the shape of fines a sum of about 2 lakhs of rupees. That money has gone into the head 'Judicial'. What I am now asking the Council to do is to transfer the money so as to let me have it, in pursuance of the promise already made by Government, for the purpose of distributing it among those who have suffered loss of property. That, Sir, accounts for 2 lakhs out of 10.

\* Vide Appendix B at page 1634 infra.

† Vide Appendix C at page 1635 infra.